

REMARKS

Please reconsider the application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks. Applicant thanks the Examiner for carefully considering this application.

Disposition of Claims

Claims 1-10 are pending in this application. Claims 1 and 5 are cancelled by this reply. Claim 2 is rewritten in independent form incorporating the limitations of cancelled claim 1. Thus, claims 2, 4, and 6-10 are independent. Claim 3 depends from claim 2.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-10 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,184,996 ("Gase"). Claim 1 has been canceled by this reply. Thus, this rejection is now moot with respect to claim 1. Claim 2 has been rewritten in independent form with the limitations of canceled claim 1. With respect to claims 2-10, this rejection is respectfully traversed.

The claimed invention relates to a printing method, a program for printing, and a print system. Specifically, the claimed invention provides a printer, adaptable to a network environment, that is capable of directly printing the information resources existing at a certain node without having a computer fetch such information resources. The printer receives a request, sent from a computer, which includes a request to a peripheral device to acquire print data. The printer subsequently sends the acquisition request to the peripheral device and prints the print data sent from the peripheral device in response to the acquisition request. Thus, the printer receives the print data directly from the peripheral device. Further, in response to a given transfer request sent from the computer prior to the receipt of the print request, the printer sends page data to the computer, which includes a print acceptance screen to send the print request. Page data may include programs, scripts, etc. Accordingly, the computer is capable of displaying the print acceptance screen on the basis of the page data and accepting the input made by users (see, *e.g.*, page 3 of the specification).

In contrast to the claimed invention, Gase relates to remote control of a print queue in a network printer which receives print jobs over the Internet from several client processors. Gase discloses a printer that is provided with a server procedure and a browser procedure. The server procedure provides a print job management function for the printer and is used to respond to request messages from one or more client processors. The browser procedure enables the printer to respond to a received URL by accessing, via the Internet, the print job designated by the URL.

With respect to the rejection of the claims, amended independent claim 2 recites “wherein according to the program and in response to a given transfer request sent from the computer, the processor sends page data, which composes a print acceptance screen for sending the print request, to the computer.” It was asserted that the page data recited in amended claim 2 equates with the “home page” disclosed in Gase (see, *e.g.*, col. 3, ll. 37-51 of Gase). However, the “home page” disclosed in Gase includes printer information and print job lists and is not the same as, or equivalent to, the page data disclosed in the claimed invention. The “home page” disclosed in Gase does *not* include a print acceptance screen which may be used to send print requests. Accordingly, Gase fails to disclose or suggest all of the limitations of claim 2.

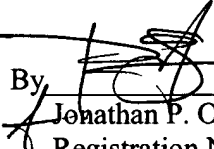
Thus, it is clear that amended independent claim 2 is patentable over Gase. Dependent claim 3 is patentable for at least the same reasons. Independent claims 4, 6, 7, and 8 have been amended to include, and claims 9-10 also include, similar allowable subject matter (*i.e.*, the page data includes a print acceptance screen for sending a print request) and are patentable over Gase for at least the same reasons as independent claim 2. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

Applicant believes this reply is fully responsive to all outstanding issues and places this application in condition for allowance. If this belief is incorrect, or other issues arise, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned or his associates at the telephone number listed below. Please apply any charges not covered, or any credits, to Deposit Account 50-0591 (Reference Number 04783/012001).

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Respectfully submitted,

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